

STATEMENT SUMMARIZING INTERVIEW

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated December 24, 2008. Claims 1 to 22 are pending, of which Claims 1, 7 and 21 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Applicant thanks Examiner Shingles and her Primary, Mr. Quang N. Nguyen, for the courtesies and thoughtful treatment afforded to their undersigned attorney during a telephone interview conducted on March 12, 2009. A Statement summarizing the interview follows.

The interview focused on U.S. Patent 5,647,434 (Hower) and U.S. Patent 6,289,371 (Kumpf '371), which were applied in a rejection entered under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) against all independent claims and many of the dependent claims. During the interview, the Examiner and her Primary agreed that the applied Hower and Kumpf '371 patents did not show two separate user inputs at two separate devices. Mr. Nguyen suggested to amend the claims so as to specify a user operation "at the scanner node", so as to clarify that the claims contemplate two separate user inputs at two separate devices. Examiner Shingles and Mr. Nguyen agreed that such an amendment would result in withdrawal of the rejection over Hower in view of Kumpf '371, and that such an amendment would receive further consideration and an updated search once filed formally.

The suggestion of Mr. Nguyen has been adopted, as shown above. Moreover, the suggestion has been adopted with somewhat greater specificity than that

suggested by Mr. Nguyen, such that all the independent claims define the user operation as a "user operation at the scanner node to select a scan order".

In keeping with the agreements reached at the interview, withdrawal of the rejection over Hower in view of Kumpf '371 is respectfully requested, together with further consideration and an updated search.

The interview also focused on Applicant's continued traversal of the USPTO's use of Hower as a reference against the claims. Hower is directed to a printing system, whereas the claims are directed to a scanning system. There are fundamental differences between a printing system and the claimed scanning system. As one example, Hower's printing system processes data in a direction which is directly opposite to that of the claimed scanning system: Hower generates printed output, whereas the claims generate scanned-in input. As a second example, Hower's printing system involves three devices whereas the claimed scanning system involves four. Specifically, Hower's printing system involves a client terminal, a print server and a target printer, whereas the claimed scanning system involves a terminal, an order entry server, a scanner node, and a destination. Thus, Applicant adheres to his previous position, and respectfully reasserts this position, to the effect that those of ordinary skill in the art of scanning systems would not look for guidance by Hower's printing system.

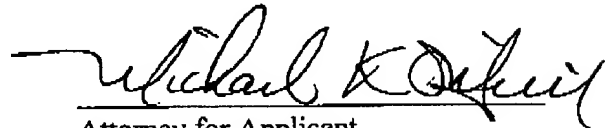
In view of the foregoing, it is believed that the entire application is fully in condition for allowance, and such action is courteously solicited.

In this regard, Applicant has again reviewed U.S. Patent 7,215,434 (Janse), which was applied as a tertiary reference in the rejection of certain ones of the dependent

claims, and likewise finds nothing in Janse concerning the claimed arrangement in which there are two separate user inputs at two separate devices, wherein one of the user inputs is a "user operation at a scanner node to select a scan order".

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicant
Michael K. O'Neill
Registration No.: 32,622

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3800
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

FCHS_WS 2955887v1